

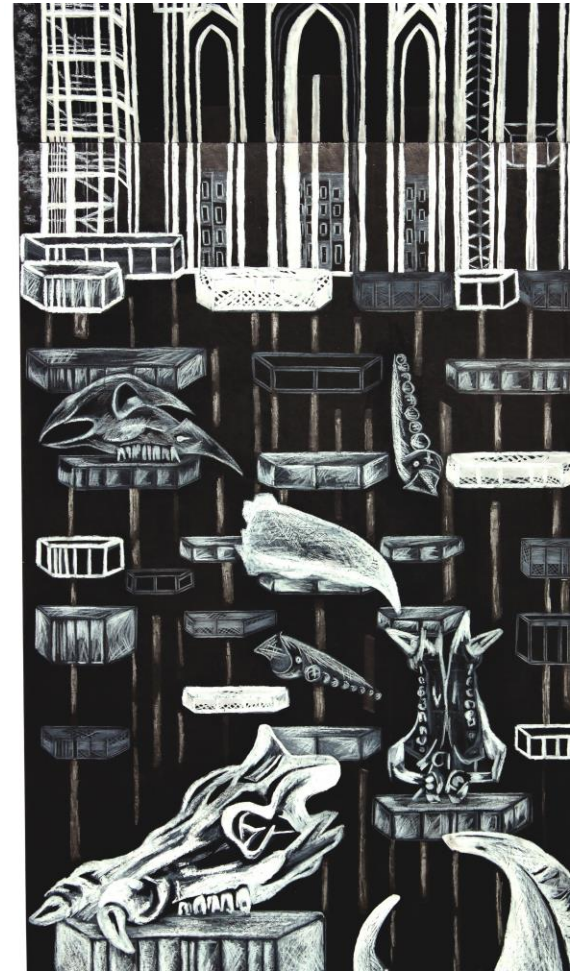
## THREE RHETORICAL DEVICES:

1. VISUAL IMAGERY WHICH INCLUDES COLOR AND ONOMATOPOEIA

2. METAPHORS AND SIMILES

3. DELIBERATE REPETITION (E.G., PARALLEL STRUCTURE AND ANAPHORA)

*Caged-City: Underground*  
Melissa Hernandez  
[www.MelissAllegories.com](http://www.MelissAllegories.com)



# SIGHT

## VISUAL IMAGERY/SENSORY DESCRIPTIONS

Visual imagery (in other words, sensory descriptions) describe the five senses: smell, sound, touch, and taste. Through descriptive words imagine your character's sense of sight (or perception), smell, sound, touch, and taste as events unfold.

### Reference:

Corll, V. A. (1994-1996). *Creating the Image: A Mini-course in Creative Writing*. Terrace, FL: The Information Outlet.

Use **COLOR** and/or *material nouns* (e.g., concrete nouns that name substances from which things are made) to give substance to emotions and **to figuratively, or metaphorically, express** elements of sight (Corll, 1994-1996, p. 6):

The **RED** hate of war!

The **IRON** (e.g., *Intense*) **GRAY** (e.g., *Unclear*) of cruelty.

The **BLACK** and **BLUE** of honesty.

The **BLACK** and **WHITE** of honesty.

The **GOLD** of loyalty.

The **GREEN** of greed.

Additionally, **empirically, or directly**, describe what your character sees with **concrete nouns, or types of collective and common nouns** (e.g., groups of individuals; and people, places, and things that are experienced through the five senses):

- I see rain, men, women, children, horses, etc.
- I see two *armies/a flock of/families* (e.g., parents and children)
- The \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_
- It was \_\_\_\_\_

Use specific adjectives to modify, or describe nouns that **suggest and/or name touch and taste** and verbs to convey its action, state, or occurrence (Corll, 1994-1996, p. 9-10):

## VISUAL IMAGERY/SENSORY DESCRIPTIONS

### TOUCH

- Feels warm against my lips
- Velvet kitten
- Bear fur
- Cold breeze
- The cool breeze felt refreshing

### TASTE

- Butter dripped down
- Salty, crunchy popcorn
- Chocolate cake icing
- The potato chip stung my tender, sunburned lips
- Her lifesaver trickled down my throat

Use **onomatopoeia**, the formation of a word that imitates a sound, and **name items with odor and/or describe them** (Corll, 1994-1996, p. 9-10):

## VISUAL IMAGERY/SENSORY DESCRIPTIONS

### SOUND

- The **murmuring of innumerable bees** (in other words, the soft buzzing sounds of countless herds of bees coming from every direction).
- The stick \_\_\_\_\_ when it broke.
- The bonfire **crackled** against the night sky.
- The snake \_\_\_\_\_.

### SMELL

- It smells nice, wonderful, awful, etc.
- The **house reeked** of decomposing fecal matter, or human waste.
- The **pleasant smell of orange blossoms** immediately *suffused*, or gradually spread within, the room when she walked through the double doors. **Is he entranced by her, or did she steal oranges!?**



Abstract nouns are intangible things – feelings, beliefs, and qualities – that cannot be effortlessly observed, or perceived, through the five senses (e.g., anger, freedom, love, mercy, horror, etc.)

# METAPHORS AND SIMILES



## METAPHORS

- Life is a **TREE** (Concrete/Common).
- Life is **GOLD** (Material/Substance).
- Life is **LOVE** (Abstract).

My **ARMS** are **PLATINUM PEACE**.

His **HEART** is a **SILVER DREAM**.

The **TREE** is **GOLD LOVE**.

## SIMILES

- His **VOICE** corrodes like **COPPER HORROR**.
- Your **MERCY** is as **SUGAR** as **MR. PETE** (Proper Noun).

## COLOR

- I. I saw her eyes burning; her **EYES** are **RED WARS** of **MERCY**.
- II. **FREEDOM** is as **BLACK AND WHITE** as **PURE LIGHT**.

## REPETITION IN PARALLEL STRUCTURE AND ANAPHORA



### Parallel Structure

- The air **feels moist**, and the room **looks dingy**.
- Centipede Man clenches his **fist and crackles his knuckles**.
- ...living plant **tissues, roots, and seeds**.

- Centipede Man **lifts** and **squeezes...**
- I am **disgusted** and **delighted**.

Use Deliberate Repetition

### Anaphora

- **Life is a TREE.**
- **Life is GOLD.**
- **Life is LOVE.**



# VISUAL IMAGERY/SENSORY DESCRIPTIONS



## CONCRETE VS. ABSTRACT

**SIGHT**  
**TOUCH**  
**TASTE**  
**SOUND**  
**SMELL/ODOR**

**METAPHORS**  
**SIMILES + COLOR**  
& Deliberate Repetition

The air **feels moist**, and the room **looks dingy**. I can **see** Centipede Man from behind his **old, dusty window drapes** which continues to **scratch my skin** as he speaks with The Captain. Centipede's **voice corrodes like copper terror**, from high-to-low, "**GET GET Ooout.**" With his **blue shoes of loyalty**, the Captain left.

He should be filled with glee to leave so soon; Centipede's office at the Powerhouse Oil Company **reeks of decomposing fecal matter**. Perhaps, he's eating human waste! Centipede Man clenches his **fist and crackles his knuckles. Bam! Bam!**

He **smashes** a long, **juicy** earthworm which is **as fat as a cow**. It tried to slither out of his **salad bowl of mixed** living plant tissues, roots, and seeds. Centipede Man **lifts** and **squeezes** the worm over his dish. The **worm is golden relish**. I'm starving... Simultaneously, I am disgusted and delighted.